Northwestern College, Iowa

NWCommons

LeCocq Family History

Box 1: Papers

2020

Letter from B.D. Dykstra to Nelson Nieuwenhuis, n.d.

B D. Dykstra

Follow this and additional works at: https://nwcommons.nwciowa.edu/lecocqhistory

Mr. Thewwenkens: - May I supplement this latter with a few comments This directed to me, it has a common interest for us both. May I request that it be preserved for eventual return to me . Time enough . I man explan that the two olders sons, Frust and Ralph, were in that he tarie first group at the academy, They were young more with magnificent Capiacities, for will probably near finds such a family with such high average ability. The letter contains the fads about the father. I may andi a few tracts to hus some flesh and blood on the shell bon of or for. mation, Mis Le Cocq was a man of somewhat stern aspect, strong in mind and strong in well. What Terray on says of Enach arden applied Wherever he bet his heart he sal his hand Ind To do the thing he willed and fore it through the He was de cedadly very much a politicean of the older type, as we now compare to mes opposition and fought hard. There was a fundamental same of rightenismess even if betimes colored by personal ambition. anished me of well wer be thus, in Beneath as calm estrior he had an executive to to down some temper. To acoust these eight bys refuned there and sofostered determination I metherness to harness time as these hungry boys sas about full tables, he would sometime say, Boys, swallow cheen's (Jongers steh brokken') When out of humor with a hired man, he might for days mun tain a very reticent mord - which the hered man usually resprovated with like attetude, I had lailed long enough. Mr. Le Coef und break the spell by suging blumly, This fan, hel je in sugar, en now gen gedonder meet Heri John, is a Ligar, and now, no mure nonsense) In legislative gatherings or in commissions when agreement could

not be reached, he employed, with the opposition unaware, the deplomatic short of handary around cipars. It worked like the Indian "Calumet"

It was such men as Mr. Le Cocq who put themselves behind the acade.
my movement, These men we builders, They were mighty in their Combition such as we may view thise riow. There were mysteres and depths in their nature that neither friend nor for could ever fathore.

I shall send on also a curious collection which the son sent me as he rays much is now mennythes. But in your research.

There may be some tits of curious information in chose fading scraps.

I do not ferrow how long you are stell at your thesis. I may sent along such matter as occurs to me

With Interest in your project

Jour Servant

3 DJ

On old Letin phrase says:

Dr morteis vihil visi bonum.

Concerning the dead, nothing except the good

entropies de la companya de la compa

Mr. Nieuwenhuis – May I supplement this letter with a few comments. While directed to me, it has a common interest for us both. May I request that it be preserved for eventual return to me. Time enough, I may explain that the two oldest sons, Frank and Ralph, were in that historic first group at the Academy. They were young men with magnificent capacities. You will probably never find such a family with such high average ability. The letter contains the facts about the father. I may add a few [unclear] to put some flesh and blood on the skeleton of information. Mr. Le Cocq was a man of somewhat stern aspect, strong in mind and strong in will. What Tennyson says of Enoch Arden applied

"Wherever he set his heart he set his hand

To do the thing he willed and bore it through"

He was decidedly very much a politician of the older type, as we now compare. He met opposition and fought hard. There was a fundamental sense of righteousness even if betimes colored by personal ambition. Among men it will ever be thus. Beneath a calm exterior he had an irresistible energy and some temper. To control those eight boys required these and fostered determination. In the rush of harvest time as these hungry boys sat about full tables, he would sometimes say, "Boys, swallow chunks" ("Jongens slik broken")

When out of humor with a hired man, he might for days maintain a very reticent mood – which the hired man usually reciprocated with like attitude. When it had lasted long enough, Mr. Le Cocq would break the spell by saying bluntly, Hier Jan, heb je n sigaar, en nou geen gedonder meer (Here John, is a cigar, and now, no more nonsense)

In legislative gatherings or in commissions when agreement could not be reached, he employed, with the opposition unaware, the diplomatic stunt of handing around cigars. It worked like the Indian "Calumet."

It was such men as Mr. Le Cocq who put themselves behind the Academy movement. These men we [sic] builders. They were mighty in their limitation such as we may view this now. There were mysteries and depths in their nature that neither friend nor foe could ever fathom.

I shall send on also a curious collection which the son sent me as he says much is now meaningless. But in your research there may be some bits of curious information in those fading scraps.

I do not know how long you are still at your thesis. I may send along such matter as occurs to me.

With interest in your project

Your Servant

BDD [Rev. B. D. Dykstra]

An old Latin phrase says:

De mortuis nihil nisi bonum.

Concerning the dead, nothing except the good